

The Times-Dispatch.

PUBLISHED DAILY AND WEEKLY AT
THE
TIMES-DISPATCH BUILDING
BUSINESS OFFICE, NO. 516 EAST MAIN
STREET.

Entered January 27, 1903, at
Richmond, Va., as second-class
matter, under Act of Congress
of March 3, 1879.

Washington Bureau: No. 601 Fourteenth
Street, Northwest Corner Pennsylvania
Avenue.
Manchester Bureau: Carter's Drug Store,
No. 1102 Hull Street.
Petersburg Headquarters: J. Beverley Har-
rison's, No. 109 North Sycamore Street.

The DAILY TIMES-DISPATCH is sold
at 2 cents a copy.

The SUNDAY TIMES-DISPATCH is
sold at 5 cents a copy.

The DAILY TIMES-DISPATCH, includ-
ing Sunday, in Richmond and Manches-
ter, by carrier, 12 cents per week or 50
cents per month.

THE TIMES-DISPATCH, Richmond, Va.

BY MAIL	One Year	Six Months	Three Months	One Month
Daily, with Sun.,	\$5.00	\$2.50	\$1.25	\$1.00
Daily without Sun.,	3.00	1.50	.75	.50
Sun. edition only,	2.00	1.00	.50	.25
Weekly (Wed.),	1.00	.50	.25	—

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FRIDAY, MARCH 3, 1905.

Activity in Virginia Lands.

About eight years ago we began to
proclaim the fact that the cheapest thing
on the market was Virginia lands. At
that time all values were depressed, the
country was just beginning to recover
from the panic of 1893, trade was dull,
many industries were working on short
time, and some of them not working at
all, and the farmers were having a hard
time to make a living. But we insisted
that Virginia lands were cheap, and that
any man who would buy judiciously at
ruling prices would be sure to realize
handsomely on his investment within a
few years. Since that time there has
been a steady appreciation in the price
of lands, and prices are much higher than
they were ten years ago. Notwithstand-
ing that fact, Virginia lands are now
in active demand, and outsiders are buy-
ing them up at the higher price.

Commissioner Kohler says that in-
quiries for our lands are becoming more
numerous every day, and that he has
never before seen so many people as are
now coming daily to his office to make
investigations, while letters are pouring
in by every mail. The best of it is that
settlers who are now coming in are men
of intelligence and push, who have the
means not only to purchase, but to im-
prove their lands and provide the neces-
sary equipment.

This boom in Virginia lands is due in a
great measure to the advertising which
Virginia did at the St. Louis Exposition,
it was a wise investment, that exhibit
of ours, and if the State would but pur-
sue a policy of liberal and persistent ad-
vertising, it would not be long before most
of her vacant lands would be taken up
by desirable settlers. We have the soil;
we have the climate; we have low taxa-
tion; and if those who live in the bleak
regions of the West and Northwest only
knew what bargains we are offering in
real estate, even at the higher prices,
there would be a continuous stream of
desirable immigration into the Old Do-
minion.

A splendid opportunity is at hand. We
should improve our schools; we should
improve our roads, and we should ad-
vertise.

Poetry in America.

For some reason which we should all
be reluctant to assign to a native lack of
the artistic instinct, America appears to
have proved an unfruitful field for the
production of the true poetic genius.
Long ago Mr. Swinburne, usually credited
with an unerring nicety of judgment in
poetry, pointed out that among all her
verse-makers, America had given the
world but two poets—Poe and Whitman;
and if the lapse of time has brought to
other keen critics any dissent at all from
this verdict, it is only that here and there
an occasional authority may rise to deny
the laurel to one or the other of these.
To this rather discouragingly abbreviated
catalogue of poetic genius in America
there has unfortunately seemed, with the
settling and shifting of expert critical
opinion that comes with the passing years,
little tendency to add.

If it be true, as is often maintained,
that it is only to the early stages of
civilization that the greatest poets reveal
their art, America's supreme opportunity,
if it ever so existed, would now appear
permanently to have taken wing. The
recent memory of Browning and Tennyson
in England, however, and the recollec-
tion of the still living Swinburne,
would effectively check any serious de-
pendency on this score. With the measure
of this modern attainment, our liter-
ary aspirations might well content them-
selves; but it is rather more than doubt-
ful whether America now holds any poet
upon whom she may reasonably count to
take rank with those great ones of Eng-
land's Victorian age. The personal or hu-
man value of any poetry will always
vary with the temperament and the emo-
tional individuality of the reader, but
for its genius and its greatness we shall
ultimately have to accept the calm and
discriminating consensus of those best
qualified to know; and, judged by this
standard, our literature of to-day has
brought forward not only no poet of the
first rank, but even, perhaps, no poet
of a high place in the second rank.

Of verse-makers, even exceedingly good,
verse-makers, this country has been pro-
lific, and never more so, we believe, than
to-day. To Mr. Steadman, Mr. James
Whitcomb Riley, Mr. Aldrich and Mr.
Edwin Markham, indeed, and perhaps
to one or two others, many excellent
poets would not hesitate to accord the

name of true poet. That their work has
shown the frequent glint of the divine
spark can, in simple truth, scarcely be
gainsaid; but time and circumstances, it
seems, have not conspired to fan this
spark into the fuller flame. After these
leaders, at no very appreciable interval,
follow Richard Hovey, Bliss Carman,
John B. Tabb, Frank L. Stanton, Louise
Chandler Moulton, and, in their proper
relations, a host of others, in whom, in
addition to a perfect mastery of the art
of versification, the critic is justified in
finding evidences that the "muses, too,
were present at their christening." The
work of all these men and women is a
constant enrichment of our periodical
literature, and a graceful adornment to
our library shelves; but the most ex-
haustive examination of it fails to re-
veal a reversal of the critical decision
that there is no poet living in the Amer-
ica of to-day.

The multiplication of the foot hills,
however, often herds the near presence
of the peak; and with the high standard
of merit in evidence in this field, we
need not be overwhelmed with the con-
viction that great poetry is not for us.
In view of the remembered early work
of those who have later earned fairly a
place among the great, it is idle to insist
that poets are inevitably born rather
than made. The aptitude must, of course,
be there, but the cultivation of the nat-
ural bent is scarcely less necessary; and
both poetic inclination and unmis-
takeable cultivation are highly evident in
current American literature.

The Mileage Grab.

The action of the House of Representa-
tives in adopting the mileage-grab amend-
ment to the general deficiency bill was
disgraceful. The amendment appropriates
\$190,000 for extra mileage for members at-
tending the second session of the pres-
ent Congress. That session began at the
close of the extra session held in the fall
of 1903 and called to consider the Cuban
reciprocity treaty. There was no actual
reciprocity, and no member left the city. Yet
because of the "constructive recess," which
because of the imaginary journey which
each congressman took to his home and
back again in a second of time, the House
voted to take \$190,000 from the public
treasury for mileage, as though the jour-
ney had actually been made, and the ex-
tra expense incurred. It was graft, pure
and simple, and we are gratified to know
that all the Virginia congressmen save one
(Mr. Maynard, of the Second District) voted
against it. We hope that they will go
farther and refuse to accept the money.

Fact is this mileage business is all
wrong, and should be abolished. It is a
relic of the days of stage coaches and
has no place in modern life. Congress-
men should have an allowance for actual
expenses in traveling to and from Wash-
ington to attend the session—no more
and no less. Then all would share alike
and the government would not be fleeced.
If expense accounts were honestly ren-
dered. But under the mileage system of
so much a mile, no matter what the ac-
tual traveling expenses may be, those
members living near to Washington re-
ceive a pittance in excess over railroad
fare, while those who live in remote sec-
tions get an excess running into thou-
sands. Of the \$190,000 voted by the House
for "constructive mileage," members liv-
ing near Washington get but a few dol-
lars, while the member from Honolulu
receives about \$2,500!

Why should this absurdity be continued?
If members of Congress do not receive
sufficient compensation for their services,
let the pay be raised and let all share
alike in the advance. But let them not
increase their pay by indirection. Let
Congress make mileage grabs impossible.

A New Era.

We have been interested no little in
reading the comments of Northern news-
papers on the resolution recently adopted
by Congress and approved by the Presi-
dent to return the Confederate battle-
flags. Thus far we have seen few words
of protest. On the contrary, the action
is generally approved by our Northern
contemporaries, and some of them have
recalled, in amusement, the famous
speeches of Governor Fairchild, command-
er of the Grand Army, and Governor
Foraker, of Ohio, when a similar propo-
sition was made during Mr. Cleveland's
first administration. Governor Fairchild
went into heroics and prayed that paral-
ysis might strike the brain that conceived
the proposition, the tongue that proposed
the sentiment, and the hand that wrote
the order, and Governor Foraker was
equally violent in his protest, going so
far as to offer Mr. Cleveland a personal
insult. But time has wrought a won-
drous change. It is a Republican
Congress and a Republican President
that have now ordered the flags to be
restored, and the North seems to be
satisfied.

Some of the Northern newspapers, how-
ever, are disposed to pat themselves on
the back for showing such a forgiving
spirit! "Now that a distance of forty
years has softened the hatreds of the
Civil War," says the Pittsburgh Gazette,
for example, "the North can afford to be
forgiving." Ah, indeed! What generos-
ity! What magnanimity! How easy it is
to forgive your victim for the wrong
that you have done him.

But let it pass. Let the dead past be its
own undertaker. Let us have peace.
The Pittsburgh Gazette couples its de-
creed of pardon with the statement that
"neither side in the dispute demands
that the other entirely forget the past in
the determination to promote mutual
helpfulness in the future." Quite so;
the South will never forget the heroes
who carried these precious flags and those
who followed them in battle, deter-
mined to do or die for the South's cause.
Nor can the South forget that a cruel
and unrighteous war was waged against
her; that her best men were destroyed
in battle; her cities burned and her fields
laid bare. Nor can she forget the ter-
rors and humiliations of reconstruction
and all that. But she is not living in the
past. She has accepted the situation.
She has rebuilt her cities and restored
her fields; she has built up a great agri-
cultural and manufacturing section, driven

the carpet-baggers away; settled the po-
litical phase of the negro question, and
taken the affairs of government in her
own hands. She has turned, sorrow-
fully though it may be, from the past,
yet resolutely and hopefully to the fu-
ture, with no apologies for past conduct,
with a clear conscience, with head erect,
and with determination to win, by that
same courage and chivalry and heroism
that she displayed in war, the victo-
ries of peace.

Criticism and Criticism.

Mr. Seth Low, of New York, recently
advised the Harvard students to "avoid
the habit of continual and destructive
criticism." "It destroys man's usefulness
almost as completely as anything can,"
said he. "I know at least one newspaper
which by constant indulgence of that habit
has really reduced a large influence to
almost nothing."

There is no specimen of humanity more
disagreeable and less influential than the
common scold. There is such a thing as
legitimate criticism, and it is useful and
essential. But there is everything in the
motive, and the motive of the common
scold is never good. It is his Mr. Seth
Low well defines it, "destructive." Criticism
for the sake of criticism, for the sake of
captious contention, never re-
forms, but makes bad matters worse.
Wholesome criticism is that which has a
good purpose in view, which is designed
to correct error, to reform abuses and
to bring about a better condition. Even
that sort of criticism may be misunder-
stood and may make enemies, but it is
none the less legitimate and laudable,
and dutiful criticism, especially in the
functions of a newspaper. But the man
or the newspaper that scolds for the plea-
sure of scolding and criticism for the plea-
sure of injuring or annoying the victim
is a sort of public nuisance, and of a
kind with the common scolds of old,
who were upon conviction ducked for
their conduct.

The Chicago Post is responsible for
this recipe for a Lawson cocktail: "Take
four headlines of billingsgate, one car-
load of Bowers slang, a large dash of
pugilistic bluff and one small jigger of
real thought; mix with a sufficient quan-
tity of soft mud, and serve in a 'yellow'
magazine."

A North Carolina legislator proposes to
make the "stealing" of a bride under cir-
cumstances, grand larceny and punishable
accordingly. The North Carolina laws
concerning marriage need amendment, but
it is doubtful if that kind of an amend-
ment is just the thing needed.

Chattanooga claims to have a man who
has predicted this winter's weather ac-
curately all the way through. "A man!"
Richmond has a hundred such prophets
and over in Chesterfield county the only
way to get at the correct number is to
consult the census.

A Boston woman has just invented an
ingenious whipping-machine for use on
husbands who misbehave. We understand
that four dozen large sized ones are being
reserved for Mrs. Hoch.

For the third time, the Rev. J. Cordova,
of South River, N. J., has eloped with
Miss Julia Bowne, the "fugitive black-
smith's daughter." Why not let them stay
away this time?

John Jacob Astor is said to have dropped
six \$1,000 bills in a New York theatre the
other day. They must have been play-
ing Monte Christo, or Old "Farrio" that
night.

Without considering prospective alimony
it must be admitted that Buffalo Bill is
paying pretty big advertising bills in con-
nection with the divorce proceedings.

Virginia wishes it distinctly understood
that that Virginia mine is in Alabama—
Atlanta Journal.

That is correctly stated.
Mr. Roosevelt can't help knowing of all
this talk about a handsome "ruse!"
ahead, but he is doing his best to look
modestly unconscious.

Now we've got this excellent and durable
phrase, "constructive recess," and
haven't got a thing in the world to apply it
to.

The flood of inauguration odes is an-
other strong argument in favor of longer
presidential terms and fewer inaugura-
tions.

Notwithstanding the zero condition of
the thermometer at Mukden, they are
having a hot time in the old town.

The Japanese Diet has just come to a
close. No, reader, the high price of food
had nothing to do with it.

The Austria-Hungary and the Norway-
Sweden hyphens are getting a little strain-
ed as the days go by.

Kuropatkin is slowly getting the plu-
feathers picked off his now celebrated left
wing.

Twenty-six bacteria can live a month on
a single penny. Lucky little chap!

What the Japs don't know about the
shell game isn't worth knowing.

Good morning; have you been vacol-
nated?

Very bright, but awfully shy—the sun
spot.

A Cure For Asthma

The worst cases of Asthma in the world
succumb readily to the one great cure
that never fails. Dr. Rudolph Schiff-
mann's Asthma Cure almost performs
miracles.

Mr. R. M. Spencer, 2359 Vermont Ave-
nue, Toledo, O., says: "Asthma has been
growing on me for three years, until last
summer the attacks became so severe
that many nights I spent half the time
coughing for breath. Doctors seemed to
give no relief whatever, and I felt there
was no hope for me, when a drug clerk
recommended your Asthma Cure. Its
effect is truly magical and gives com-
plete relief in from 2 to 5 minutes."
Sold by all druggists at 50c. and \$1.00.
Send 2c. stamp to Dr. R. Schiffmann, Box
883, St. Paul, Minn., for a free sample
package.

Read This

Genuine Smithfield Hams,
pound 20c
Genuine Smithfield Bacon,
pound 15c
4 cans Tomatoes for 1.00
Butcher's Lard, lb. 10c
Sleigh Butter, lb. 30c
Choice Breakfast Bacon,
pound 12c
Choice Evaporated Peaches,
pound 11c
Choice Roe Herring, doz. 15c
Choice Cut Herring, doz. 8c
American Oats, package 7c
Quaker Oats, package 10c
Full Cream Cheese, lb. 14c
Genuine Gibson Whiskey,
4 years old, gallon, \$1.50

J. S. MOORE'S SONS

(Incorporated)
1724 East Main Street.
Phone 507.

QUERIES AND ANSWERS

An Interest Problem.

A dry-goods merchant, having lost his
goods by fire, received \$148,650, having
paid premium for two years. The rate
per cent for insurance being 1-1/2, what
was the amount of his insurance?
\$148,650 ÷ (1 - 0.015) = \$148,650 ÷ .985 =
\$151,000, amount of his insurance, so as to
cover proper and premiums.

Panama Canal.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:
Sir—Will you please be so kind as to
let me know to whom and where I can
make application for a position as drafts-
man, or rating instrument man on the
Panama Canal? J. R. B.
Application for positions under the
Panama Canal Commission may be ad-
dressed to Admiral Walker, the Isthmian
Canal Commission, Star Building, Wash-
ington, D. C.

Duties of County Sup't.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:
Sir—Please answer in The Times-Dis-
patch what is the duty of the county
superintendent. How often is he required
to visit the public school during a term?

READER.
The duties of a county superintendent
of schools are fully set forth and ex-
plained in the twelve subdivisions of
section 19 of the Virginia School Laws
(see edition of 1902 and 1903). These
clauses are too long to be published in
one issue of this paper.

The Name Berkeley.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:
Sir—Kindly tell me why the town of
Berkeley isn't spelled "Berkley." Why
was one "e" left out?

From Colonel W. H. Stewart's "History
of Norfolk County": "The tradition says
George Washington visited the place
with a view of locating the national cap-
ital there; hence it was christened the
town of Washington. Not many years
ago it was christened in honor of Ly-
cargus Berkeley, a prominent citizen, and
the town of Berkeley, Va., was incorpo-
rated by an act of the Legislature of
Virginia, passed March, 1850." It was
not named after Governor Berkeley.

Rural Carriers.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:
Sir—Please answer the following ques-
tion in next issue of your valuable paper
and oblige:
Who are the proper officers for rural
free delivery carrier to get a permit to
carry a concealed weapon? J. Z. G.

Rural mail carriers who desire to carry
concealed weapons should write to Post-
Office Department stating his reasons
for carrying such weapons, and ask per-
mission from the department to carry
a weapon. After the department has
given its consent, he then must secure
a permit from some court officer or
some one in authority to carry concealed
weapons.

Rural carriers may carry unconcealed
weapons, provided the Post-Office De-
partment will permit him to do so.

Christ's Brethren.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:
Sir—Did Christ have any brothers and
sisters according to the flesh? Mark
vi, 3, speaks of his brothers. Does it
mean brothers in the flesh or in the
faith?

Will you please settle this dispute in
the Query column of The Times-Dispatch,
and oblige.
Yours truly,
R. M. PARRISH.

If we could settle this question we
would do what the world of theological
learning have never done. There are
three views:

1. That Christ's brethren were sons of
Joseph by a former marriage.
2. That they were his cousins.
3. That they were the actual children
of Joseph and Mary, born, of course,
after the birth of Jesus.

The plain reading of the Scriptures
favors the last view, but some expo-
sitors reject it. Of this last view Farrar
in his "The Life of Christ," says he
believes that it "has an overwhelming
preponderance of argument in its favor."
Moberg in his "The Life and Times
of Jesus," holds to this view and says:
"It seems to us as if the primary
meaning of the terms (brothers and sisters)
would scarcely have been called in
question, but for a theory of false as-
sertion and an undervaluing of the
sanctity of the married estate." See
the books referred to, and also Smith's
Dictionary.

Tides in the Lakes.

In theory there must be lunar tides of
the Great Lakes, although they may be
too small to be detected in bodies of water
and more affected by winds and by
differences in barometric pressure. This
latter influence is so potent that in Lake
Michigan it sometimes causes distur-
bances resembling the waves when the
surface of the water is otherwise quite
calm.

GENEROUS GIFT FROM MISS HELEN GOULD

Passenger and Power Company
Gives Free Transportation
to Auxiliary Members.

Twenty-five ladies were present at the
meeting held yesterday afternoon by the
Woman's Auxiliary of the Virginia Pass-
enger and Power Company. Y. M. C. A.
There was much business of interest and
importance. Perhaps the two most pleas-
ing announcements were a very generous
donation from Miss Helen Miller Gould,
and the fact that, through the courtesy
of General Manager S. W. Huff, mem-
bers of the auxiliary would hereafter be
given free transportation tickets to and
from the meetings. The secretary, Mrs.
George H. Whitfield, was instructed to
write to Mr. Huff, thanking him for his
generous interest in the work.

There will be another children's rally
March 13th. Free transportation will be
given the children of the Virginia Pass-
enger and Power Company employees.
Mrs. S. W. Huff is the chairman of this
committee.

A social will be held on the evening
of March 14th at 8:15 o'clock. There will
be a pleasing program, followed by
many features calculated to make the
participants have an enjoyable time.

The chairman of the Entertainment
Committee, Mrs. S. L. Dunn, will have
charge of the affair.

Mrs. John G. Cringan has very kindly
consented to give a talk at the April
meeting on "Good Cooking." She will
give special attention to dishes that are
palatable and convenient for the
lunch basket.

The Loving Circle of the King's Daugh-
ters and Sons are going to unite with
the auxiliary in a rummage sale to be
held the first week in April.

Through the courtesy of the manage-
ment, a special car, carrying about sixty
members of the Virginia Passenger and
Power Y. M. C. A. and also several
members of the auxiliary to Petersburg
last Sunday night.

The closing exercises of the Y. M. C. A.
convention were attended. A strong plea
was made for money to carry on Y. M.
C. A. work in the counties of Virginia.
Members of the Virginia Passenger and
Power Company, who were present,
pledged a handsome sum for this work.
The Woman's Auxiliary pledged \$5 when
they were told of this extension of the
work.

An apron and bonnet committee was
formed, with Mrs. Vest as chairman.
The House Committee, Mrs. J. S. Huff
chairman, was increased by the addi-
tion of two members, Mrs. W. T. Yar-
brough and Mrs. Crowder.

The Sick and Relief Committee, Mrs.
C. C. Johnson chairman, reported seven-
teen visits the last month, and the pres-
ident reported \$15 disbursed from the
sick and relief fund.

A very pleasant feature of the work
is the interest shown by people not in
any way connected with the company.
There are several working members from
the outside.

ATHLETIC EXHIBITION.

World's Champion at the Academy To-Night—Other Features.

Mr. Herman T. Glass, who won the
world's championship on flying rings at
St. Louis last summer, is on the pro-
gramme at the Academy to-night, and his
performance alone will be worth the
price of admission. Mr. Glass's work is
exceedingly difficult and done in such
perfect form that it is scarcely possible
for a layman to see a flaw in his
performance and gave him 100 per cent.
A distinction won by no other of the
many gymnasts who took part at the
world's championship games.

Stole Horse and Wagon.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
SALISBURY, N. C., March 2.—At a late
hour last night, Deputy Miller of the United
States revenue service, captured a two horse
wagon loaded with illicit whiskey three miles
north of the city. The seized whiskey was
brought to Salisbury and placed in the gov-
ernment warehouse, and the team and wagon
placed at a livery for safe keeping. Later in
the night, unknown persons entered the stables
by filing the lock off of the doors and stole
both the team and the wagon and escaped un-
observed. It is conceded that the robbers
had confederates who assisted in a cleverly
worked scheme. The owner of the team and
whiskey is unknown to the officers.

Murder in the First Degree.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
TAYLORVILLE, VA., March 2.—Sam Hair-
ston, a negro who killed his sweetheart,
Minnie Thompson, at Pocolontas the day
before they were to be married, by shoot-
ing her, was tried in court here to-day
and found guilty of murder in the first
degree. Sentence was withheld until to-
morrow, to give the negro's counsel time
to prepare a bit of opposition, which
will be argued before the court in an at-
tempt to have the verdict set aside.

Crushed to Death by a Tree.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
FREDERICKSBURG, VA., March 2.—
Mr. Sidney Mountjoy, a well known
young man of Stafford county, aged 22
years, was killed yesterday while felling
timber in the forest. He was cutting
down a large tree, but failed to get out
of the way in time and the tree, in fall-
ing, caught him beneath it and crushed
his life out. He is survived by his wife,
his mother, six brothers and three sisters.

25c.
per lb.
Best Pure
Absorbent
Cotton

Sterilized and packed in an
airtight antiseptic container.
The fact that we handle nothing
but the best and genuine is
a guarantee that anything we
offer you, though it be at a
very low price, is genuine and
of the best quality.

L. Wagner Drug Co.
Sixth and Broad Sts.

The All-Night Drug Store

Norman F. Short Co.

Incorporated
Announce the opening of their new shop
No. 812 East Main Street
Richmond, Va.
Your patronage solicited

Haberdashery

Spring, 1905

March 3d in World's History

1634.
First colony arrived at Potomac for the settlement of Maryland, under Lord
Baltimore. It consisted of 200 Catholics from England. The soil was purchased of
the natives, and the foundation of the province was laid on the broad basis of
security to property and of freedom in religion.
1760.
Unsuccessful attack on the fort at Ninety-Six by 200 Cherokee Indians.
1776.
The Americans, under Colonel Bull, burned the British ship Inverness and six
other vessels, near Savannah, laden for England.
1779.
Battle of Briar Creek, when the Americans were surprised by the British,
under Provost, and lost 150 killed and 162 prisoners.
1791.
The church plate in France was sent to the mint for coinage.
1802.
County of St. Lawrence, N. Y., erected.
1804.
Formal complaints were made by the French and Spanish ministers at Constan-
tinople that the Governor of Alexandria permitted all foreign consuls to be insulted
by his own soldiers.
1808.
The French West India Island Marginalate taken by the British. It was col-
onized by the French in 1747; twice taken by the Dutch and